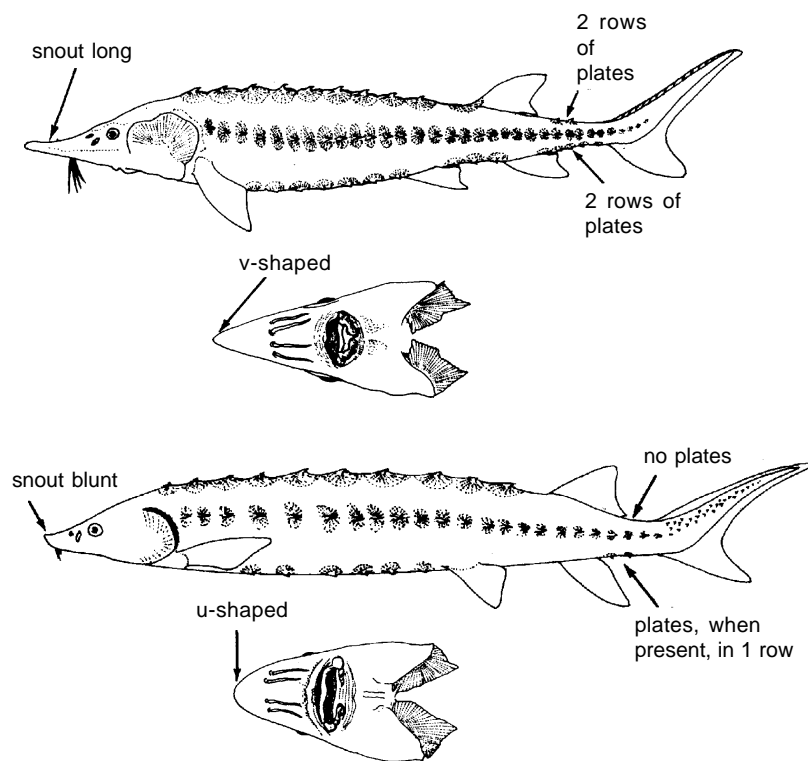


## SELECTED SPECIES ID'S: sturgeon



### ATLANTIC STURGEON *Acipenser oxyrinchus*

Key characteristics:

- snout v-shaped from underside view (upturned profile in juveniles)
- barbel length  $> 1/2$  width of mouth
- width inside lips  $< 55\%$  of bony interorbital width
- male average length 198 cm, female average length 244 cm

VS.

### SHORTNOSE STURGEON *Acipenser brevirostrum*

Key characteristics:

- snout u-shaped from underside view
- barbel length  $< 1/2$  width of mouth
- width of inside lips  $> 62\%$  of bony interorbital width
- post-dorsal plates usually absent
- post-anal plates, when present, in 1 row
- average max. length 102 cm (can be 6 ft. or more)

**Figure 46.** Atlantic sturgeon (top 2) and shortnose sturgeon (bottom 2). Source: *FAO Species Identification Sheets for fishery purposes. Western Central Atlantic (fishing area 31). Vol. 1*, UNFAO.